



## DEVIATIONS FROM INTEGRATING SPHERE THEORY CAUSED BY CENTRALLY LOCATED SAMPLES

J. P. Dawson, D. C. Todd, B. E. Wood, et al.  
ARO, Inc.

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## **FOREWORD**

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**ABSTRACT**

A review of the assumptions made in the theory of the classical integrating sphere is given. The validity of these assumptions as applied to a modified integrating sphere is discussed in terms of a computer analysis and experimental data. The results of the analysis indicate that a possible error of 15 percent may be introduced into the absolute reflectance determinations. This can occur when the classical theory is applied to a modified integrating sphere using the angular-hemispherical technique. The parameters considered in the analysis are irradiance, sphere radius, sample reflectance, specular component of the sample, angle of incidence, and detector location.



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## NOMENCLATURE

A	Area of the interior sphere wall, $\text{cm}^2$
$A_j$	Area of piece "j", $\text{cm}^2$
D	Detector
E	Diagonal matrix of reflectances
F	Form factor matrix
$F_{ij}$	Form factor from i to j
$F_{ikj}$	Form factor from i to k to j
$G_{ij}$	Form surface factor
$H_{\ell j}$	Irradiance on piece j from piece $\ell$ , $\text{w/cm}^2$
I	Identity matrix
$I_o$	Energy, w
$I_{S_1}$	Incident energy on $S_1$ , $\text{w/cm}^2$
$I_{S_2}$	Incident energy on $S_2$ , $\text{w/cm}^2$
$I_{\theta, \phi}$	Incident energy at $\phi$ when sample is irradiated at $\theta$ , $\text{w/cm}^2$
$I_{\psi, \phi}$	Incident energy at $\phi$ when sphere wall is irradiated at $\psi$ , $\text{w/cm}^2$
k	Detector constant, $\text{mv/w/cm}^2$
N	Number of pieces of sphere
$P_i$	Energy flux leaving piece "i", w
$P_{ij}$	Energy flux leaving piece "i" and incident on piece "j", w
$Q_{\ell i}$	Energy flux from piece " $\ell$ " to piece "i", w
R	Radius of sphere, in.
r	Radius of sample disk, in.
S	Sample surface
St	Standard sample

V	Detector output, mv
$\alpha$	Specular component
$\beta$	Azimuthal angle, deg
$\epsilon$	Incident energy
$\theta$	Angle of incident beam on sample, deg
$\rho$	Reflectance
$\phi$	Polar angle of reflection, deg
$\psi$	Polar angle of incident radiation, deg
$\Delta w$	Solid angle containing reflected radiation

### **SUBSCRIPTS**

$d$	Diffuse reflecting sample
$i$	Piece "i"
$j$	Piece "j"
$\ell$	Piece " $\ell$ "
$r$	Reflected
$s_1$	Pertaining to side 1 of sample S
$s_2$	Pertaining to side 2 of sample S
$s$	Specularly reflecting sample
$st$	Standard sample
$w$	Pertaining to interior sphere wall



## SECTION I INTRODUCTION

There are three basic types of instruments which are used to measure the reflectances of surfaces. These systems are the Coblentz hemisphere, the heated cavity reflectometer, and the integrating sphere. They were evaluated by Dunkle (Ref. 1) in a recent review paper on reflectance measurements. The hemisphere with variations has several basic problems such as critical locations of detector and sample, non-uniform detector response to both angle of incidence and image location, and optical aberrations. The heated cavity reflectometer is not operable in the visible range unless very high temperatures are maintained in the cavity. This is caused by large errors which are introduced by small temperature gradients in the heated cavity. Of these systems, the integrating sphere is capable of the most precise measurements over the largest wavelength range if a few precautions are taken about the choice of sphere wall materials and the location of sample, detector, and entrance port.

The integrating sphere has been used to determine the reflectance of various surfaces for many years, and extensive literature exists describing its applications. Several investigators have analyzed the theory of the integrating sphere (Refs. 2 through 5). They have considered the case of a perfect sphere where the area of the apertures for illumination and viewing as well as the sample port are negligible compared to the area of the sphere. Hardy and Pineo (Ref. 6) discussed the errors caused by the finite size of the apertures, but they considered only the photometric method and did not mention the mathematical techniques used. The effects of finite apertures on the reflectance were also treated by Preston (Ref. 7); however, his method cannot be easily extended to more general cases.

Since the theory of the integrating sphere is the theory of multiple reflections in a confined system, this problem of interreflection can be formulated as an integral equation. Moon (Ref. 8) gave a discussion of this considering the apertures to be negligibly small. Jacquez and Kuppenheim (Ref. 9) extended Moon's work and derived an integral equation which considers the aperture sizes, geometry of the sample and standard, and the effects of a specular component on the reflectance measurements. All of these discussions assumed perfect sphere, perfectly diffuse reflections from the wall, and that the wall was uniformly irradiated. Also, the sample and standard were located on the wall of the sphere. When the sample is on the wall, the angle of incidence of the

light beam is governed by the size of the sphere and the geometry of the entrance aperture. In most cases the angle of incidence is 5 to 15 deg from the sample normal.

The need for reflectance measurements (Refs. 10 and 11) as a function of angle of incidence of the light beam has led to modifications in the standard integrating sphere. The most common modification is to place the sample in the center of the sphere and to rotate the sample to obtain the desired angle of incidence. Such systems have been described by Edwards (Ref. 11), Wood (Ref. 12), and Birkebak (Ref. 13). This location of the sample alters the distribution of the reflected radiation within the sphere and, therefore, the sphere walls are not uniformly irradiated as is assumed in the classical theory. The purpose of this report is to formulate the general problem of the integrating sphere with the sample in the center and to determine the effect of the center sample on the wall irradiance and on the calculation of sample reflectance.

## SECTION II CLASSICAL INTEGRATING SPHERE THEORY

The reflectance of a surface is normally defined as the ratio of reflected to incident radiation. Previous investigators have shown that the reflectance is a function of surface material, radiation wavelength, angle of the incident radiation, and surface roughness. For the following discussion the surface material, the wavelength, and the surface roughness will be held constant. It is assumed that the interior walls of the spheres are diffuse reflectors with a reflectance,  $\rho_w$ , of 96 percent, and that the detector is a perfect absorber.

The classical or perfect integrating sphere (Fig. 1), as discussed by Jacquez and Kuppenheim (Ref. 9), is considered to be a sphere with negligible size apertures whose walls are uniformly irradiated by multiple reflections. The sample,  $S$ , and the standard,  $S_t$ , are curved such that they continue the sphere wall and, therefore, no correction need be applied for flat surfaces.

When radiation,  $I_o$ , is incident on the diffusely reflecting sample, the reflected radiation is  $\rho_d I_o$ ,  $\rho_d$  being the reflectance of the sample. The irradiance of any unit area on the sphere wall from this reflection would be  $\rho_d I_o / A$ . Then the detector response from the first reflection would be given by

$$V_1 = k \rho_d I_o / A \quad (1)$$

From the second reflection, the radiation striking the detector would be  $(\rho_w \rho_d I_o)/A^2$  from each unit area or summing over all unit areas the detector response would be

$$V_2 = k \frac{\rho_w \rho_d I_o}{A} \quad (2)$$

From the third reflection

$$V_3 = k \frac{\rho_w^2 \rho_d I_o}{A} \quad (3)$$

Summing over all reflections, the total detector response would be

$$V_d = \sum_1^{\infty} V_i = k \frac{\rho_d I_o}{A} (1 + \rho_w + \rho_w^2 + \rho_w^3 + \dots) \quad (4)$$

or in closed form

$$V_d = k \frac{\rho_d I_o}{A} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \rho_w} \right) \quad (5)$$

Applying the same method to the standard sample yields a detector response of

$$V_{st} = k \frac{\rho_{st} I_o}{A} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \rho_w} \right) \quad (6)$$

and the ratio of Eq. (5) to Eq. (6) gives the equation of Jacquez and Kuppenheim (Ref. 9)

$$\frac{\rho_d}{\rho_{st}} = \frac{V_d}{V_{st}} \quad (7)$$

This equation has been used by many investigators for calculating  $\rho_d$ . However, if the sample is not a perfectly diffuse reflector, this equation is not accurate. To illustrate this, the same sphere with a perfectly specular reflecting sample is considered. The detector does not see the first reflection because of the specular reflection from the sample. Therefore,  $V_1 = 0$ , and the detector response from the second reflection would be

$$V_2 = k \frac{\rho_w \rho_s I_o}{A} \quad (8)$$

From the third

$$V_3 = k \frac{\rho_w^2 \rho_s I_o}{A} \quad (9)$$

Summing over all reflections, the total detector response for the specular sample would be

$$V_s = \sum_1^{\infty} V_i = k \left[ 0 + \frac{\rho_w \rho_s I_o}{A} + \frac{\rho_w^2 \rho_s I_o}{A} + \dots + \frac{\rho_w^{N-1} \rho_s I_o}{A} \right] \quad (10)$$

or in closed form

$$V_s = k \frac{\rho_w \rho_s I_o}{A} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \rho_w} \right) = k \frac{\rho_s I_o}{A} \left( \frac{\rho_w}{1 - \rho_w} \right) \quad (11)$$

and since  $\rho_w = \rho_{st}$

$$\rho_s = \frac{V_s}{V_{st}} \quad (11a)$$

The detector response for a diffuse sample (Eq. (5)) and a specular sample (Eq. (11)) are different by a factor of  $\rho_w$ . Jacquez and Kuppenheim (Ref. 9) arrive at the same general equation through a more rigorous mathematical treatment. These equations show that if a sample has both a diffuse and a specular component neither equation will give an accurate value for the reflectance, the greatest error being  $1 - \rho_w$ .

### SECTION III MODIFIED SPHERE, ANGULAR-HEMISPHERICAL TECHNIQUE

The most common modification to the classical integrating sphere has been the placement of the sample in the center of the sphere (Fig. 2). For example, a case where the angular-hemispherical technique (Fig. 2) is employed will be considered. Radiation strikes the test surface at some given angle,  $\theta$ , and is reflected into the top hemisphere. For this system, where the sample is located in the center of the sphere, the assumption of equal irradiance on the wall is not valid. This can be shown by considering the first reflection of incident radiation from the sample.

If the sample is a perfectly diffuse reflector, the distribution of the radiation reflected into the top hemisphere will follow the cosine law. Then the area of wall normal to the sample surface will have the highest irradiance, and the irradiance will decrease as a cosine function (Fig. 2). The bottom hemisphere being shadowed by the sample will not be irradiated by the first reflection. For subsequent reflections, all areas of the sphere wall will be irradiated. However, the shadowing effect of the sample must be considered for precise calculations. Calculation of wall irradiance requires a computer because each form factor and form surface factor must be obtained for each unit area, and for the desired accuracy a large number of terms must be used in the series in Eq. (4). Such a computer program has been written, and the mathematical method used in the program is discussed in the next section.

The case of the perfect specular reflecting sample is less complicated than that of the diffuse reflector. The radiation is incident on the sample at some angle  $\theta$  and is specularly reflected at the angle  $\phi$ , where  $\theta = \phi$ . Only a small area is irradiated by the first reflection, and this area is normally quite small compared to the total sphere wall area. Neglecting this small area, the equation derived for the specular sample (Eq. (11)) can be used to calculate the reflectance of the center sample. However, the shadow effect again has been neglected.

#### SECTION IV MATHEMATICAL METHOD

Consider a modified sphere (Fig. 3) which is of radius  $R$  and has a diffuse reflecting interior surface with reflectance  $\rho_w$ . The centrally located sample is considered to be an infinitely thin disk of radius  $r$ , and the system is symmetrical about the  $z$ -axis. Divide the sphere into  $N$  pieces (Fig. 3), determined by planes perpendicular to the  $z$ -axis, and label them from 1 to  $N$ . Let the test surface of the sample,  $S_1$ , be piece  $N + 1$  and the other side,  $S_2$ , be piece  $N + 2$  with their respective specular components being  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$ .

For case 1, assume that  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$ . If energy of flux  $P_i$  leaves piece  $i$  diffusely and uniformly and then, considering all reflections, there will be a resulting flux  $P_{ij}$  on piece  $j$ . Since  $P_{ij}$  is directly proportional to  $P_i$ , a form surface factor can be defined as

$$G_{ij} = P_{ij}/P_i \quad (12)$$

which will depend only on the nature of surface and the geometrical configuration of the system.

It is shown in Appendix I that by making the pieces small enough, that  $G$  is approximated by an infinite series of matrices involving only the form factor matrix,  $F$ , and the diagonal matrix of the reflectances,  $E$ . It is also shown that

$$G = F(I - EF)^{-1} \quad (13)$$

Thus,  $G$  may be calculated by summing a series or by inverting a matrix. The first method was used in this report because better accuracy was obtained.

Let a collimated beam of flux  $Q_{\ell i}$  from a source on piece  $\ell$  be incident on piece  $j$ . Then flux

$$P_i = \rho_i Q_{\ell i} \quad (14)$$

will leave piece  $i$  diffusely (and it will be assumed uniformly) so that  $P_{ij}$  can be calculated from Eq. (12). The irradiance  $H_{\ell j}$  incident on piece  $j$ , resulting from  $Q_{\ell i}$ , is found by dividing  $P_{ij}$  by the area,  $A_j$ , of piece  $j$ . This results in

$$H_{\ell j} = \frac{\rho_i Q_{\ell i} G_{ij}}{A_j} \quad (15)$$

For case 2, assume that of the flux reflected from  $S_k$  ( $k = 1, 2$ ) that  $\alpha_k$  is reflected specularly and that  $(1 - \alpha_k)$  is reflected diffusely. Now consider flux leaving piece  $i$ . Depending on the location, a fraction,  $f_{ikj}$ , of this flux will be reflected specularly from  $S_k$  onto piece  $j$ . It is shown in Ref. 14 that

$$f_{ikj} = \alpha_k \rho_{n+k} F_{ikj} \quad (16)$$

where  $F_{ikj}$  is the form factor from piece  $i$  to the part of the image of piece  $j$  reflected in the plane of the disk, which can be seen through  $S_k$ .

Now define a new "form factor"  $F'$  by

$$F'_{ij} = F_{ij} + f_{i1j} + f_{i2j} \quad (17)$$

Also, since only  $(1 - \alpha_k)$  of the flux leaving  $S_k$ , leaves diffusely let

$$F'_{n+k, j} = (1 - \alpha_k) F_{n+k, j} \quad (18)$$

In this case  $F'$  is used instead of  $F$  when calculating  $G$ .

As before, the irradiation resulting from  $Q_{\ell i}$ , where  $i \leq n$ , is given by Eq. (15). However, consider the radiation from  $P_{\ell, n+k}$ . An amount,  $\rho_{n+k} (1 - \alpha_k) Q_{\ell, n+k}$ , will leave  $S_k$  diffusely. The factor of  $(1 - \alpha_k)$  has already been considered by altering the form factors according to Eq. (18). Also, an amount,  $\rho_{\ell} \rho_{n+k} \alpha_k P_{\ell i}$ , will be leaving piece  $\ell$  diffusely. In actuality this flux will be leaving an area the same size as the area of the source. It will be assumed that it leaves piece  $\ell$  uniformly. Although this is only an approximation to the actual condition, if we consider that the flux is leaving diffusely and will be diffusely reflected many times, the assumption leads to a good approximation. With this assumption it can be shown that the irradiation on piece  $j$  resulting from  $Q_{\ell, n+k}$  is

$$H_{\ell j} = \frac{\rho_{n+k} Q_{\ell, n+k} (G_{n+k, j} + \rho_{\ell} \alpha_k G_{\ell, j})}{A_j} \quad (19)$$

The method of this analysis is based on Eq. (19). It is seen from Eqs. (16), through (19) that case 2 reduces to case 1 when  $\alpha_k = 0$ .

## SECTION V RESULTS

With the aid of the computer program, the wall irradiance was calculated as a function of  $\rho_{S_1}$ ,  $\rho_{S_2}$ ,  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\psi$ , and  $R/r$ . These quantities are identified in Fig. 4. Also, the reflectance of each test sample was calculated, employing Eqs. (7) and (11a), to determine the error caused by unequal wall irradiance. Experimental data were obtained on similar samples in a 7-in. integrating sphere for comparison purposes. These results are presented graphically and are discussed in the next section. These results are based on a sphere which has been divided into 16 parts, and a sufficient number of reflections were considered to give an accuracy of 0.01 percent in the wall irradiance. The values of  $I_\phi$  given are the averages of the sphere piece considered, and  $\phi$  is equal to the angle which designates the mid-point of the piece.

## SECTION VI DISCUSSION

### 6.1 ANGULAR-HEMISPHERICAL TECHNIQUE

The system parameters used in this discussion are illustrated in Fig. 4. When the angular-hemispherical technique is used, the radiation,  $\epsilon_i$ , strikes the test surface  $S_1$ , at an angle  $\theta$  measured from the surface normal, and the irradiance on the wall is given in terms of the angle  $\phi$ . For the graphs shown,  $\theta = 5.6$  deg unless otherwise stated.

Consider a diffuse reflecting sample which has a reflectance of 5 percent ( $\rho_{S_1} = \rho_{S_2} = 0.05$ ;  $a_1 = a_2 = 0$ ). The irradiance of the sample is 0.7 in. and is kept constant for all calculations. The irradiance on the wall is given in Fig. 5 as a function of  $\phi$  for integrating spheres with radii of 3.5, 5, 6, and 7 in. The radius of the sample is 0.7 in. and is kept constant for all calculations in this report. The curves indicate that the irradiance decreases as  $\cos \phi$  from  $\phi = 0$  deg to  $\phi = 90$  deg, but from  $\phi = 90$  deg to  $\phi = 180$  deg the irradiance is essentially constant. If each reflection is considered individually, this is the expected result. Since the first reflection has a diffuse distribution (Fig. 4), a, the area normal to the surface ( $\phi = 0$  deg) would have the higher irradiance and the irradiance would decrease to zero at  $\phi = 90$  deg. The lower hemisphere would not be irradiated by the first reflection. However, for each subsequent reflection the sphere wall would be equally irradiated by each reflection because of the diffuse reflecting wall. This is subject

to a correction for the shadowing effect of the sample. The change in irradiance between the various spheres is caused by the increase in actual interior surface area of the integrating spheres and the  $R/r$  ratio. The percentage difference in irradiance between the upper and lower hemispheres is the same in each case. That is, if the irradiance was normalized for the various sphere radii one would obtain a single curve. Also, since the sample was assumed to be a perfectly diffuse reflector, the same curves are obtained when  $\theta$  is varied from 0 to 90 deg. To compare the perfectly specular reflecting surface with the perfectly diffuse, the dashed curves in Fig. 5 show the wall irradiance on spheres with 3.5- and 6.0-in. radii. All other parameters are the same except that now  $\alpha = 1$ .

Now consider the case where the radiation strikes the wall first. The area which is illuminated by the incoming radiation is determined by the angle  $\psi$ , measured from the normal to  $S_2$  (Fig. 4). The change in irradiance of the wall under these conditions varied less than 1.0 percent from  $\phi = 0$  deg to  $\phi = 180$  deg. This variation was caused primarily by the absorption of radiation by  $S_2$ . This observation is shown in Fig. 6 for three sphere sizes. The irradiance on  $S_2$  is plotted versus the angle  $\psi$ . When the area normal to  $S_2$  is irradiated, the irradiance on  $S_2$  is the greatest and as  $\psi$  increases to 90 deg the irradiance decreases as a function of the  $\cos \psi$ . This is caused by the decrease in area of  $S_2$  (form surface factor) as seen by the radiating area of the sphere wall. Thus, less radiation from the first reflection is absorbed by  $S_2$ , and a slightly higher irradiance is observed at  $\psi = 90$  deg. The dotted line is the irradiance on  $S_1$  and as shown,  $I_{S_1} = I_{S_2}$  when the radiating surface is 90 deg from the normals of the two surfaces. The circular points on the curve for the 3.5-in. radius sphere are experimental points measured by substituting solar cells for  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . The data have been normalized with respect to the  $I_{S_2}$ ,  $\psi = 25$  deg.

The following equation was used to calculate the reflectance of  $S_1$ ,  $\rho_{S_1}$ , from these data.

$$\rho_{S_1} = \rho_w \frac{I_{\theta, \phi}}{I_{\psi, \phi}} \quad (20)$$

Where  $\rho_w$  is the reflectance of the wall;  $I_{\theta, \phi}$  is the irradiance at  $\phi$  when the sample is irradiated at  $\theta$ ;  $I_{\psi, \phi}$  is the irradiance at  $\phi$  when the incident radiation strikes the wall at  $\psi$ . Since  $S_1$  is a diffuse reflecting sample,  $I_{\theta, \phi}$  will be a constant when  $\theta$  varies from 0 to 90 deg, and it has been stated that  $I_{\psi, \phi}$  varied less than 1 percent for all angles of  $\psi$  and  $\phi$ . To analyze the effects of the parameters on reflectance measurements, all the calculations are for  $\theta = 5.6$  deg and  $\psi = 61.9$  deg.

Using Eq. (20) or its equivalent, Eq. (7), and  $I_{61.9}$ ,  $\rho_{S_1}$  was calculated for each value of  $\phi$  for spheres of radius 3.5, 5, and 7 in. In Fig. 7, these results are compared to  $\rho_{S_1}$  calculated assuming equal wall irradiance. The reflectance of a sample is usually measured with the detector located at  $\phi = 90$  deg; this is indicated on the figure by an arrow. As is shown by the curves, if the reflectance of a sample is measured with the detector at the indicated point, the value of the reflectance will be in error. Several investigators have made reflectance measurements with such systems, have compared their results with other published data, and have reported good agreement with spheres of different sizes. However, the curves (Fig. 7) show that with the detector located at  $\phi$  near 90 deg, the spheres would give essentially the same result and it would be in error by approximately 4 percent. The circular points on the figure are experimental data obtained with a 3.5-in. radius sphere. These data have been normalized with respect to  $\phi = 80$  deg.

In Fig. 8,  $\rho_{S_1}$  calculated from Eq. (7) is compared to that expected when the sphere wall irradiance does not vary (solid lines). The error in the measurement caused by unequal irradiance is shown in Fig. 9 for values of  $\rho_{S_1}$  from 5.0 to 100 percent for various size spheres. The values of  $\theta$ ,  $\psi$ , and  $\phi$  are as indicated in the figure. The absolute error is shown in Fig. 10 as a function of  $R$  and  $\rho_{S_1}$ . The absolute error is shown again in Fig. 11 to illustrate the change in error as a function of  $R/r$  for different values of  $\rho_{S_1}$ .

Another factor which influences the irradiance is the reflectance of the back side of the test surface,  $\rho_{S_2}$  (Fig. 12). Although the general shape of the distribution curve is not changed, the curve is shifted as  $\rho_{S_2}$  varies from 0 to 1.0 as shown by Fig. 12. If the reflectance measurements are obtained with the detector at  $\phi = 90$  deg, the greatest error introduced by  $S_2$  is 2.0 percent.

In precise calculations, the effect of the specular component of the test sample must also be considered. One would not expect the specular component,  $a_2$ , of  $S_2$  to have much influence on the wall irradiance since the sample is essentially irradiated equally from all angles, and the distribution of the reflected light would not vary much if the sample were diffuse or specular. However, the specular component,  $a_1$ , of  $S_1$  is of vital importance when using the angular-hemispherical technique. Since the incoming radiation is incident on the sample, the distribution of the radiation on the top hemisphere is dictated by  $a_1$  and the angle of incidence,  $\theta$ . Figure 13 shows the effect of  $a_1$  on  $\rho_{S_1}$  calculated from the classical sphere equations. The curve for  $a_1 = 0$  was calculated using the equation for a diffuse sample, Eq. (7), and the curve for  $a_1 = 1.0$

from Eq. (11a). The curves for the other values of  $\alpha_i$  were obtained from the following equation.

$$\rho_{S_i} = (1 - \alpha_i) \frac{I_{\theta, \phi}}{I_{\psi, \phi}} (\rho_w) + \alpha_i \frac{I_{\theta, \phi}}{I_{\psi, \phi}} \quad (21)$$

This equation implies that the specular and diffuse components are completely separable and that no interaction occurs. The validity of this assumption is dependent on the particular surface being tested. Measurements of the distribution of light reflected from some metal samples have shown that the specular component could be treated separately; that is, the specular component was a sharp spike superimposed on a diffuse or spherical distribution. However, other samples have shown that the two components are inseparable because the distribution is oval.

The absolute error in the determination of  $\rho_{S_i}$  caused by using the classical sphere equations for the calculation are shown in Fig. 14 for several sphere sizes. The largest error occurs when  $\alpha_i = 0$  and the smallest when  $\alpha_i = 1.0$ . The curve connecting these two points was determined by Eq. (21) and is subject to the assumptions previously stated.

Several investigators have stated that if the angular-hemispherical technique is used and the detector does not see the first reflection from the sample, Eq. (11a) will give the correct value of  $\rho_{S_i}$ . Although it is true that the value of  $\rho_{S_i}$  calculated from Eq. (11a) when  $\phi = 90$  deg is in better agreement with the true value of  $\rho_{S_i}$  than the value obtained from Eq. (7), the reason given for using the equation is not valid. This is shown in Fig. 15. The solid line represents the value of  $\rho_{S_i}$  obtained from a perfect sphere as a function of  $\phi$  for  $\alpha_i = 0$  or 1.0. Curve number 3 shows  $\rho_{S_i}$  as a function of  $\phi$  calculated from Eq. (11a) for a sample,  $\alpha_i = 1.0$ , in a modified sphere. Curve number 2, calculated from Eq. (7), is for a diffuse sample. As indicated, curve number 1, calculated from Eq. (11a) with  $\alpha_i = 0$ , gives a more accurate value of  $\rho_{S_i}$  at  $\phi = 90$  deg but it is purely fortuitous. This can be shown by considering the total energy in the system. If a sample,  $\rho_{S_i} = 0.05$ , is irradiated by a source with  $I_0$  watts then the energy reflected is 0.05  $I_0$  watts. This energy is distributed throughout the sphere and in the perfect sphere case, the total energy is proportional to the area under the curve for the perfect sphere. The area under curve number 3 is proportional to the energy for the  $\alpha_i = 1.0$  case. This total area is approximately 4 percent less than that for the perfect sphere. This is to be expected since the detector does not see the first reflection from the sample, and its reading would be reduced by  $\rho_w$ . The area under the second curve is 0.4 percent less than for the perfect sphere, and the difference is attributable to the absorptance

of  $S_2$ . The area under curve number 1 is 2.8 percent greater than the perfect sphere case. This is not possible since it would require an addition of energy to the system. Even though the use of Eq. (11a) to calculate  $\rho_{S_1}$  gives a more accurate value under these conditions, it has no theoretical justification.

Table I shows the absolute error in the reflectance measurement when the angular-hemispherical technique is used. These data are for a 3.5-in. radius sphere with samples of various reflectances as indicated in columns I and II. The values listed in columns III, IV, and V were determined by the difference in the known  $\rho_{S_1}$  and the calculated values. The calculated values for column III were determined from Eq. (7) for  $\phi = 90$  deg and  $\theta = 5.6$  deg. The calculated values used to obtain the errors listed in columns IV and V were determined from Eq. (11a) for  $\theta = 5.6$ ,  $\phi = 95$  and  $\theta = 5.6$ ,  $\phi = 130$ , respectively. The values for  $\rho_{S_1} = 0.96$  are experimental points obtained with a MgO sample. The errors shown in columns III, IV, and V indicate that the classical theory of the integrating sphere does not represent the data obtained with a modified sphere. It is also apparent from these errors that the location of the detector is very critical.

## 6.2 HEMISPHERICAL-ANGULAR TECHNIQUE

Another measurement technique which may be used with a modified sphere is shown in Fig. 16. In this technique the radiation enters the sphere diffusely at  $\psi = 90$  deg, and the sample is irradiated by reflections from the top hemisphere. The radiation,  $I_{r\phi}$ , reflected from the sample, contained in solid angle  $\Delta w_r$  is measured as a function of  $\phi$ . The radiation incident on  $S_1$ ,  $I_{ha}$ , is determined by viewing the radiation reflected by the sphere wall into the same solid angle,  $\Delta w_r$ . The sample reflectance is then determined from Eq. (11a). A detailed discussion of this technique is given in the literature (Refs. 11 and 13). The greatest change in wall irradiance as  $\phi = 0 \rightarrow 180$  deg was less than 0.3 percent and occurred when  $\rho_{S_1} = \rho_{S_2} = 0.05$ . This variance is caused primarily by the shadow effect of the sample.

A comparison of absolute, calculated, and measured reflectances for a center sample in a 3.5-in. radius sphere indicated a variation of only 0.1 percent; that is, the data would follow the dotted lines shown in Fig. 8. This implies that the assumptions and equations for the classical integrating sphere theory are valid for this technique and that accurate results can be obtained with their use.

## SECTION VII CONCLUSIONS

Calculations and experimental data have shown that the assumptions made in the classical theory of the integrating sphere are not valid for an integrating sphere with a centrally located sample when the angular-hemispherical technique is used. The error introduced by unequal wall irradiance could be as great as 15 percent depending on the reflectance of the sample and the location of the detector. The parameters  $\rho_{S_2}$ ,  $\alpha$ , and the view factors may introduce errors of 1 to 2 percent; the overall average error in absolute measurements would be about 4 percent.

The theory and assumptions for an integrating sphere, either classical or modified, were found to be valid when the hemispherical-angular technique was used. If the angular-hemispherical technique is used with a modified sphere, the system should be calibrated with a standard sample for each set of experimental conditions.

## APPENDIX I

From Eq. (12), if  $P_i$  is 1 then  $G_{ij} = P_{ij}$ . Therefore, let a flux of unit magnitude leave piece  $i$  diffusely and uniformly. Let  $P_{ij}^M$  be the flux incident on piece  $j$  which has been reflected exactly  $M$  times, then, since flux of unit magnitude leaving  $i$  is assumed

$$P_{ij}^0 = F_{ij} \quad (I-1)$$

If it is assumed that the flux is redistributed uniformly over a piece before being reflected (this is a good assumption if the pieces are small) then

$$P_{ij}^M = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N+2} \rho_{\ell} P_{i\ell}^{M-1} F_{\ell j} \quad (I-2)$$

Clearly the matrix equation is

$$P^M = \begin{cases} F & M = 0 \\ P^{M-1} EF & M > 0 \end{cases} \quad (I-3)$$

Also

$$G = \sum_{M=0}^{\infty} P^M \quad (I-4)$$

Substituting into Eq. (I-4) and simplifying one obtains Eq. (I-3)

$$G = F + \left( \sum_{M=0}^{\infty} P^M \right) EF \quad (I-5)$$

or

$$G = F + G EF \quad (I-6)$$

Solving this equation for  $G$  one obtains the result

$$G = F (I - EF)^{-1} \quad (I-7)$$

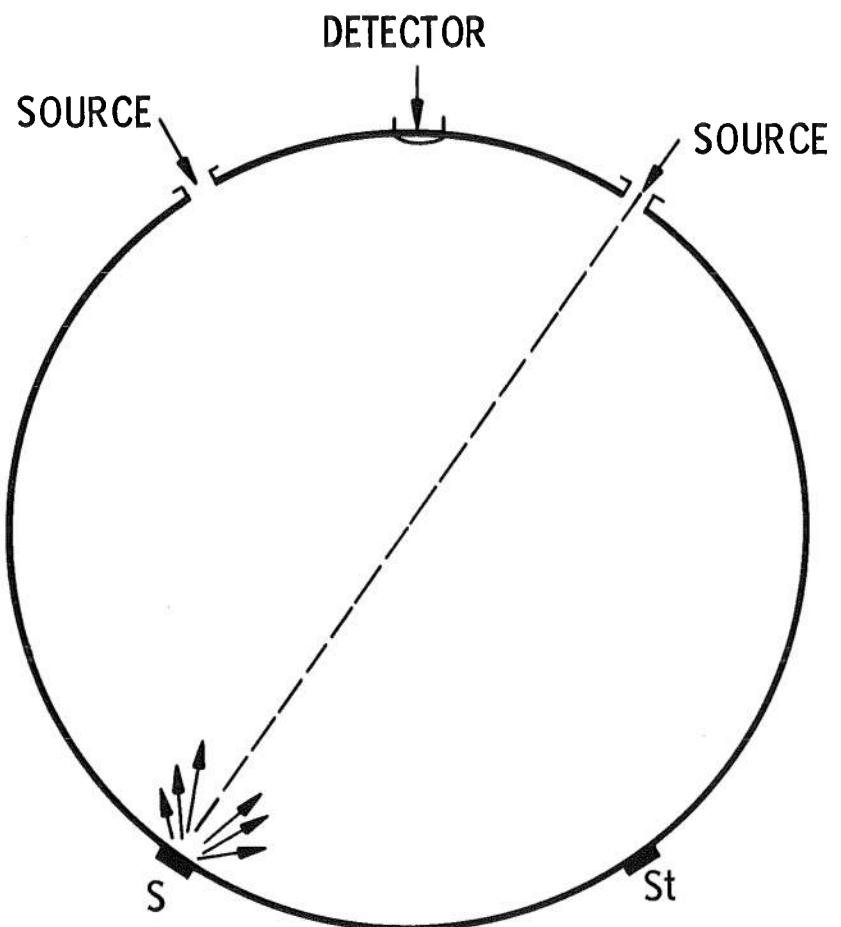
Thus, one can calculate  $G$  by inverting the matrix. A more complete discussion of this method is given in Ref. 15.

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**Fig. 1 Classical Integrating Sphere**

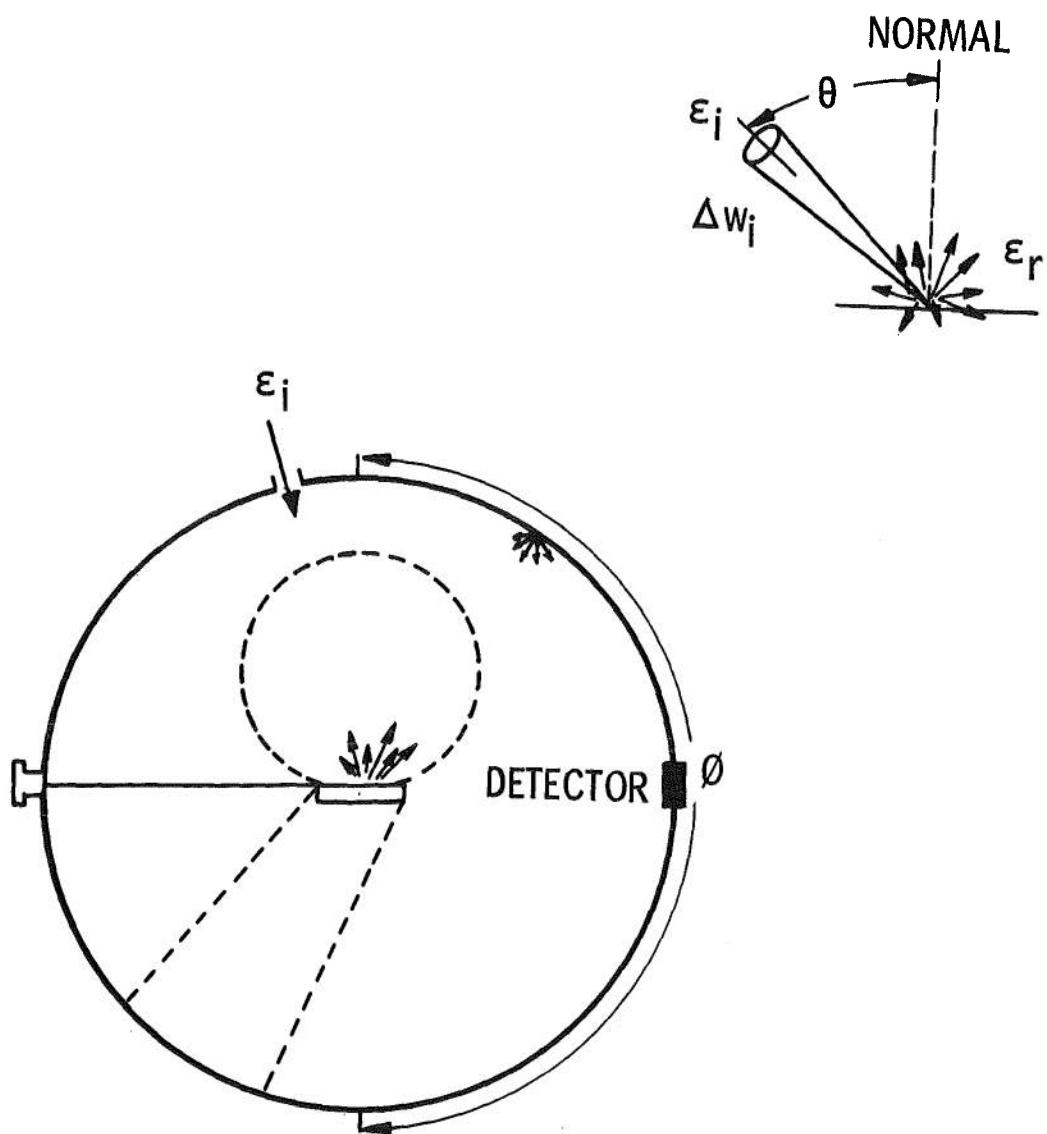


Fig. 2 Modified Integrating Sphere

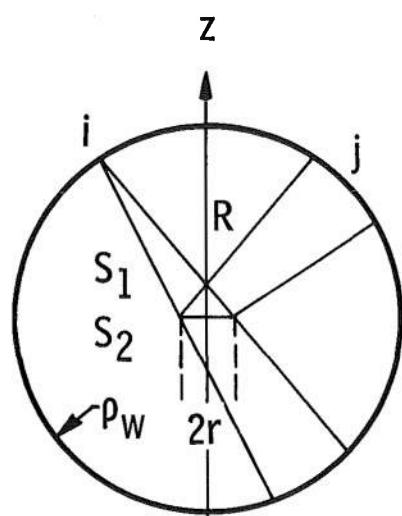
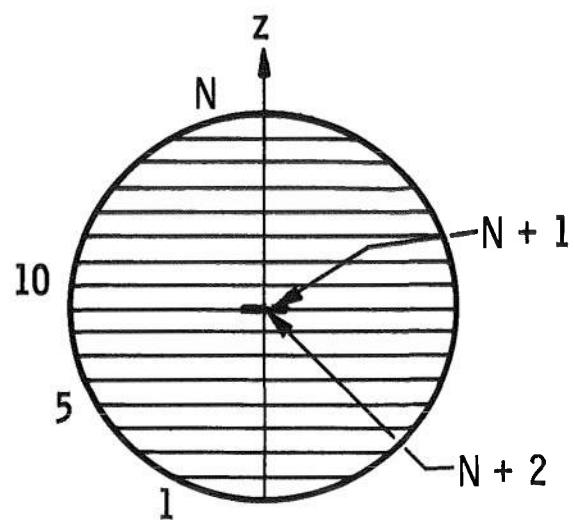


Fig. 3 Mathematical Model of Integrating Sphere

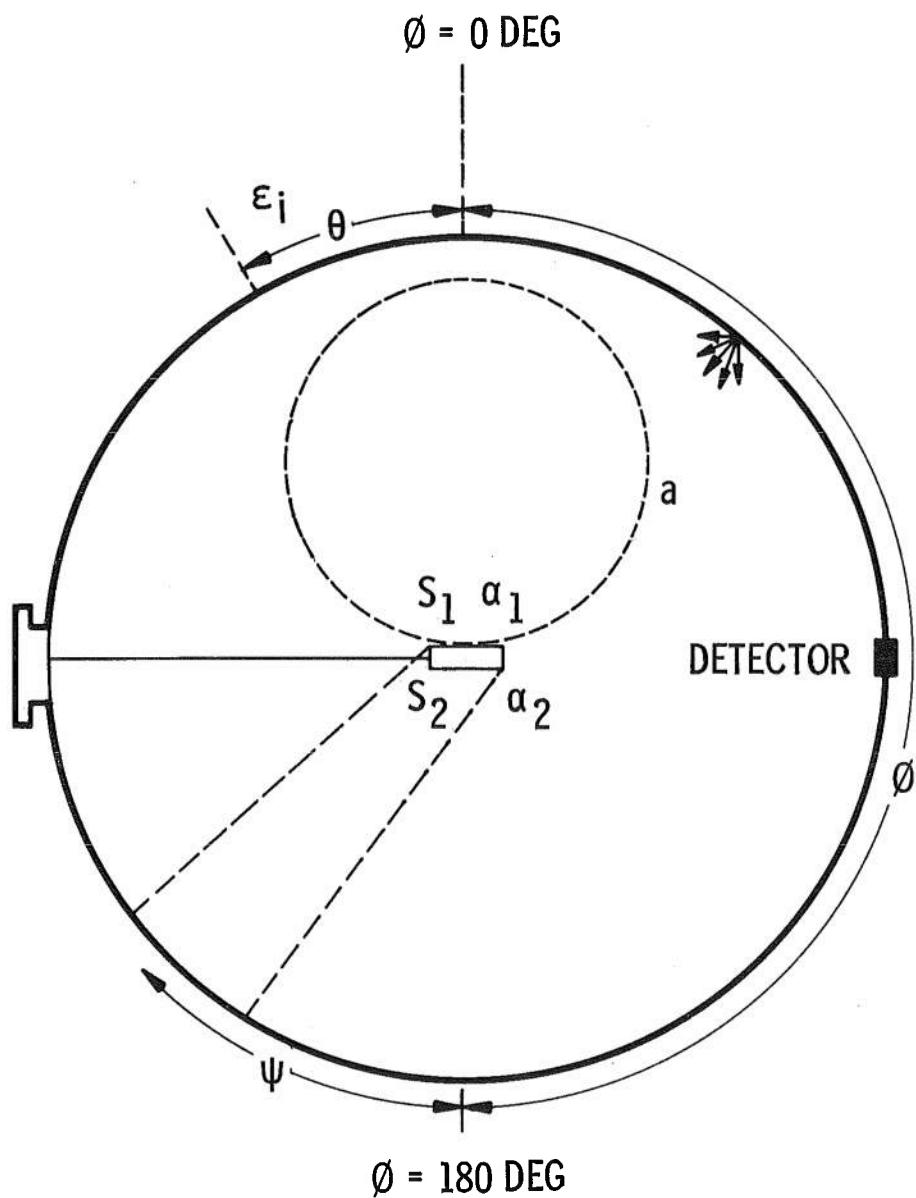


Fig. 4 Sphere Parameters

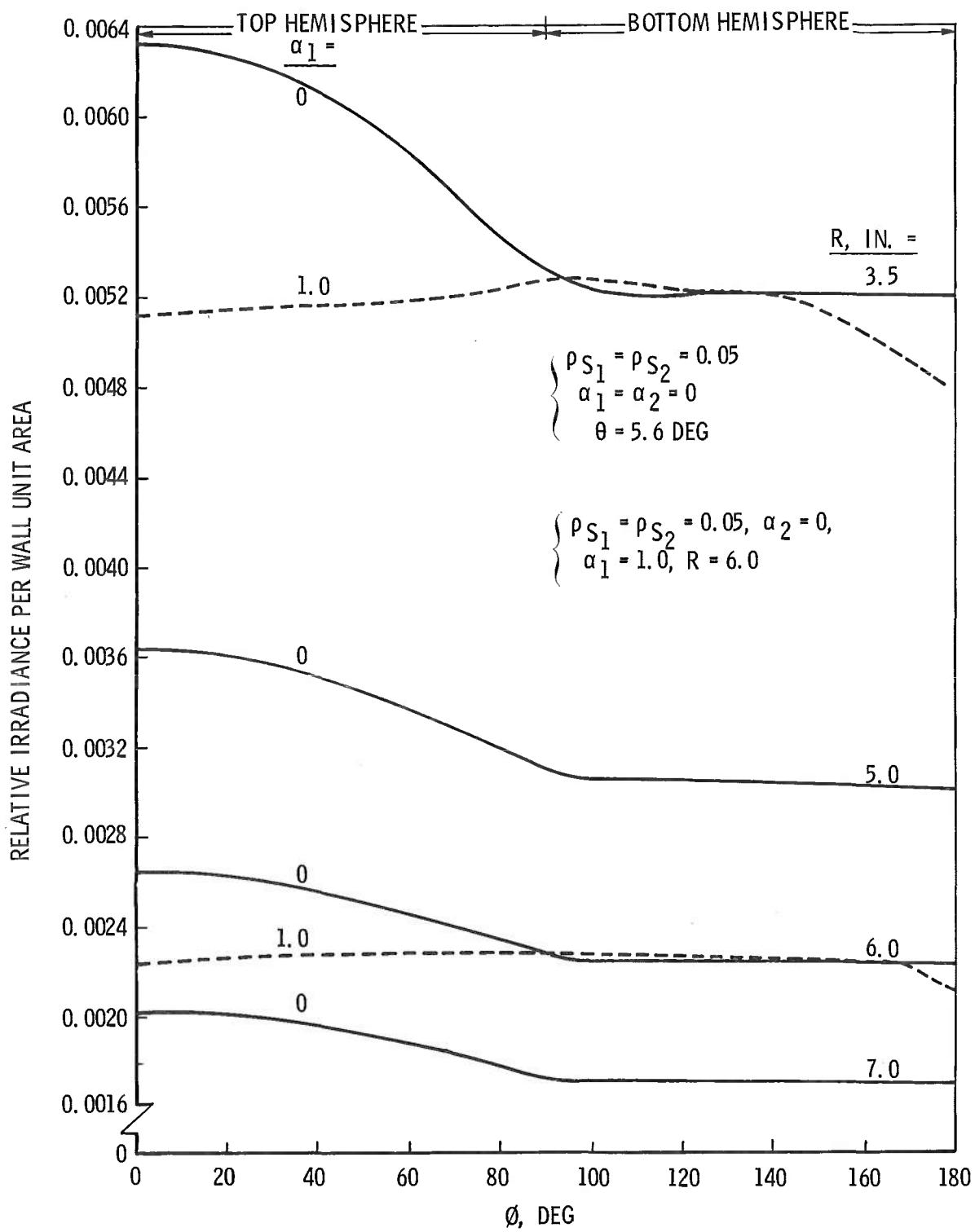


Fig. 5 Irradiance Distribution

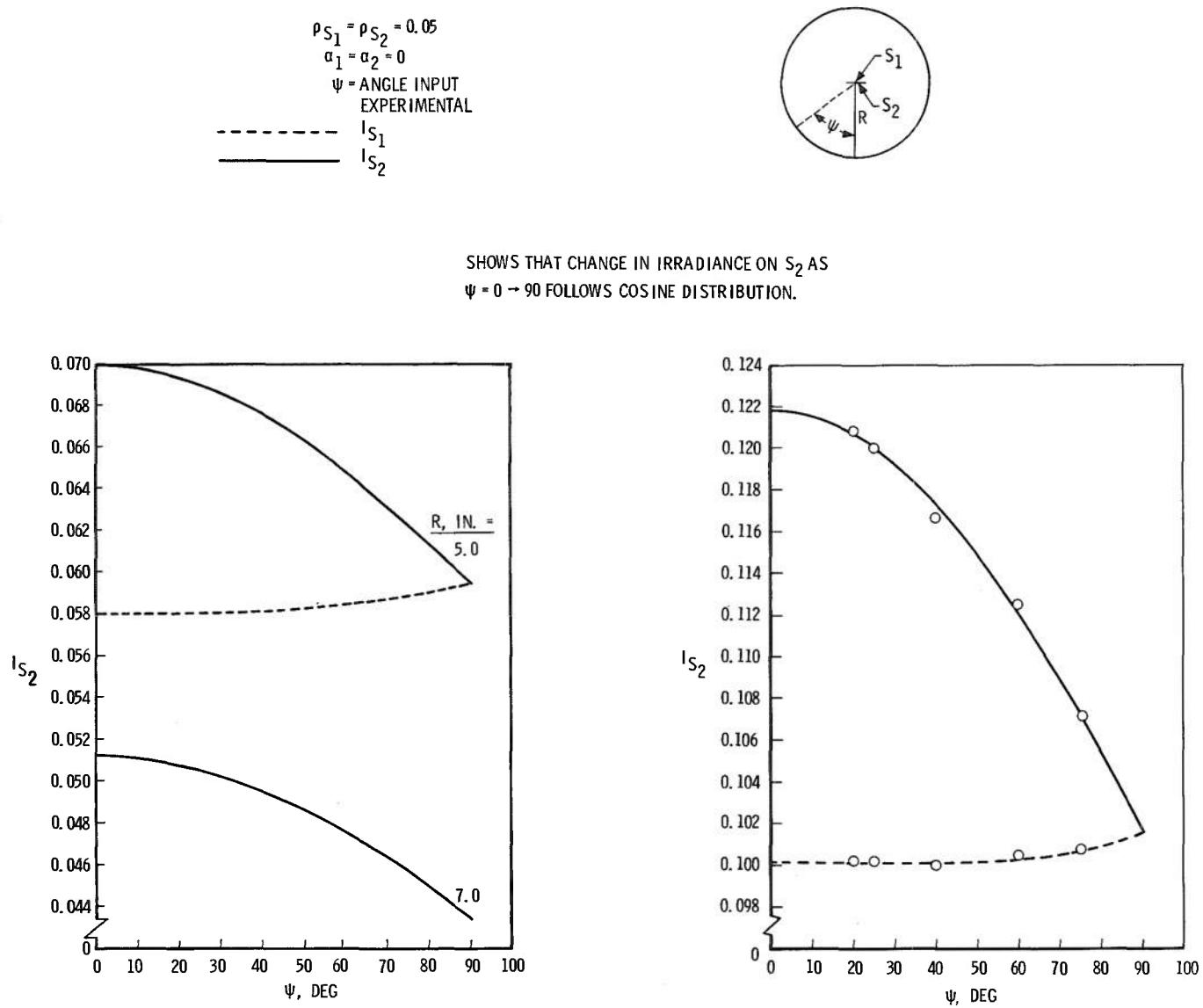


Fig. 6 Irradiance on Center Sample

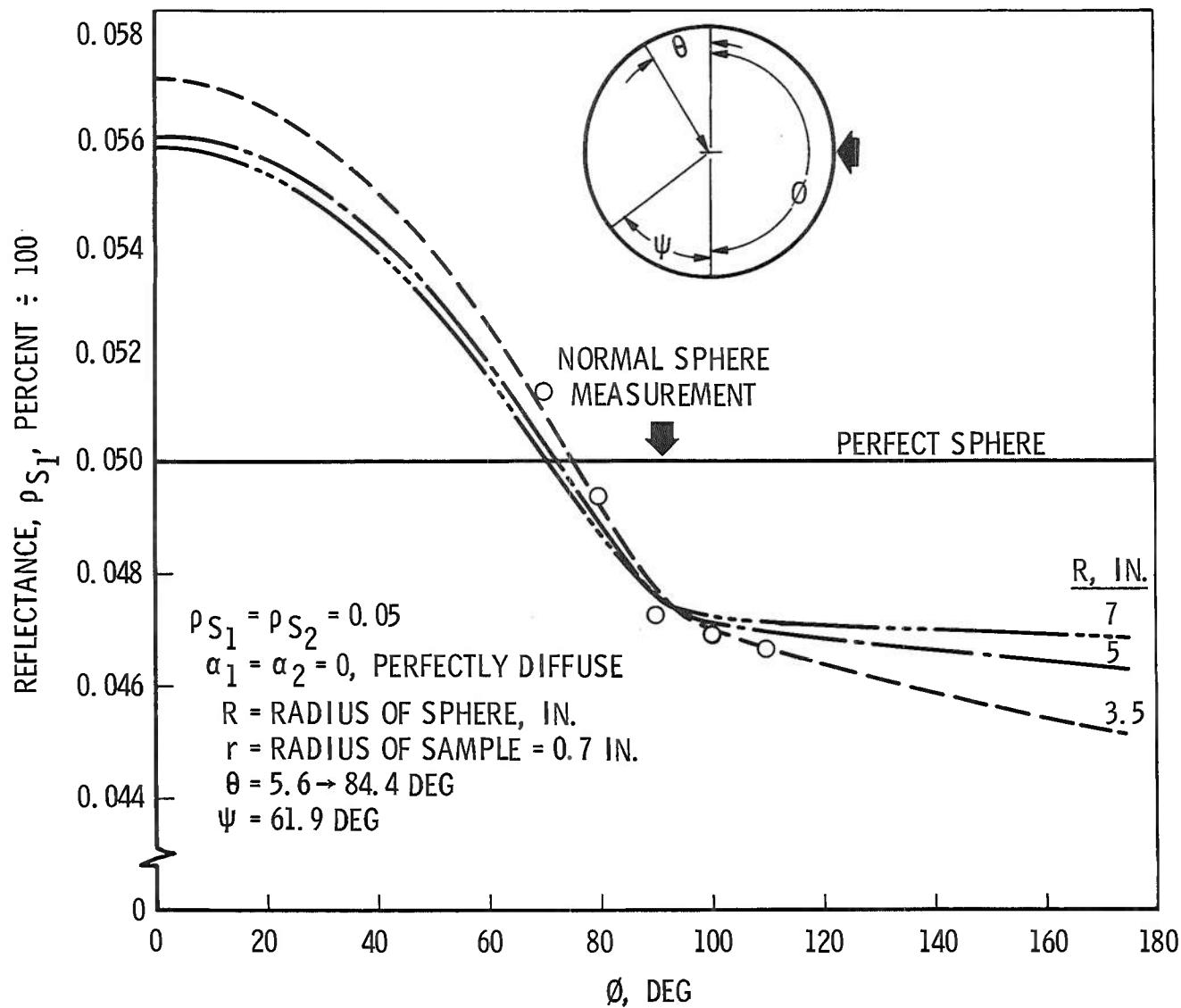


Fig. 7 Reflectance as a Function of  $\phi$  and  $R$

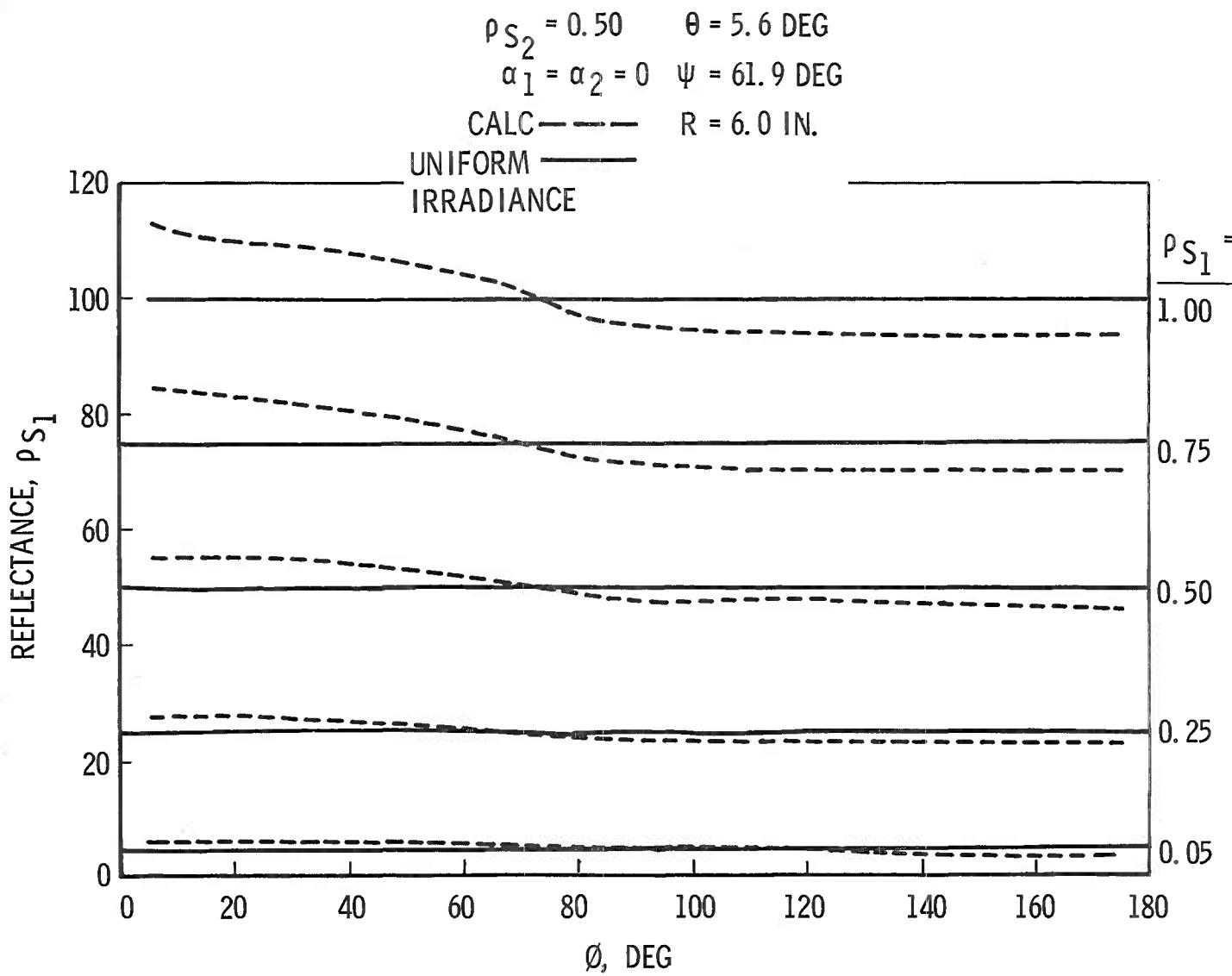


Fig. 8 Reflectance as a Function of  $\phi$  and  $\rho_{S_1}$

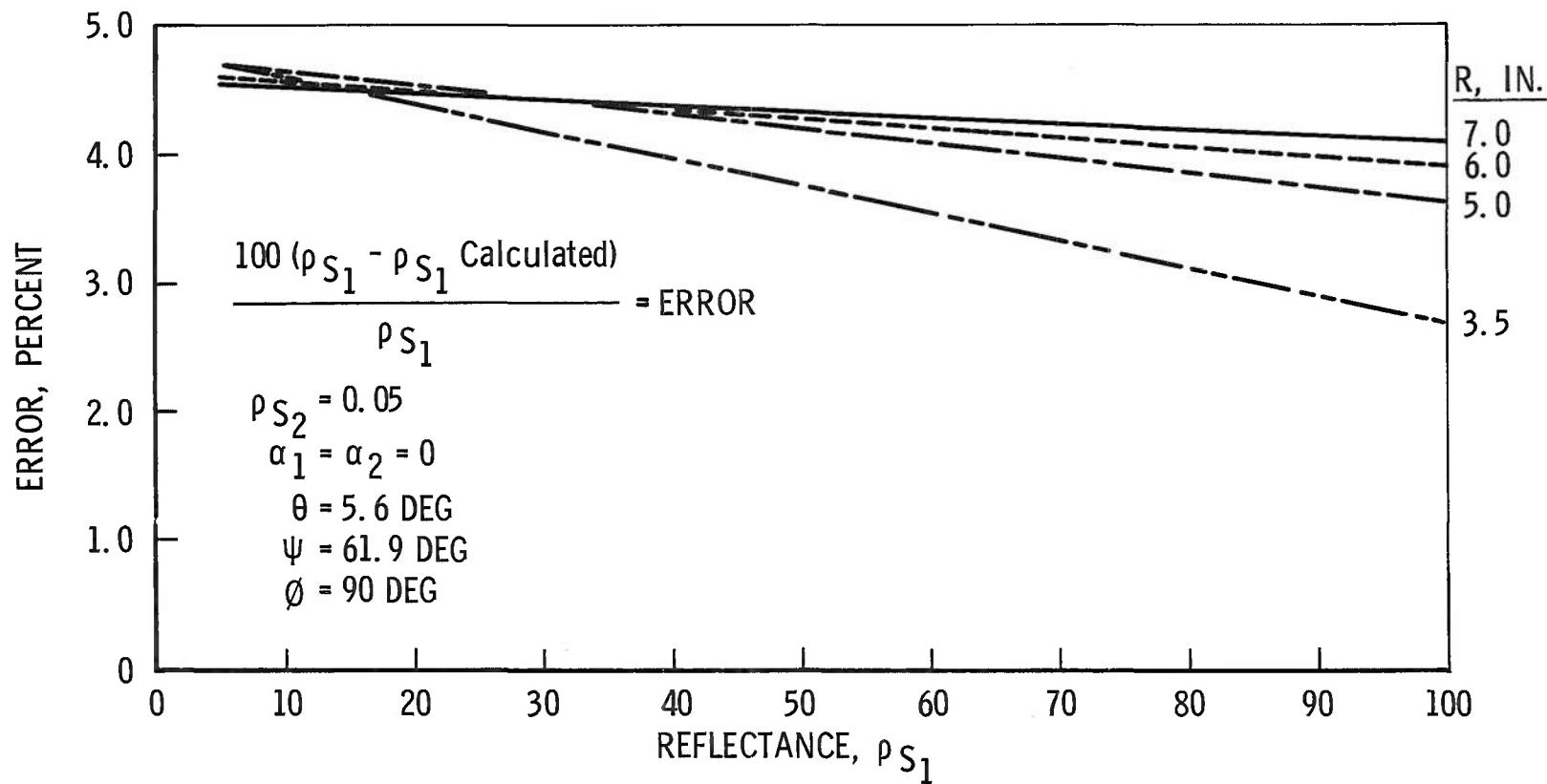


Fig. 9 Experimental Error as a Function of R and  $\rho_{S_1}$

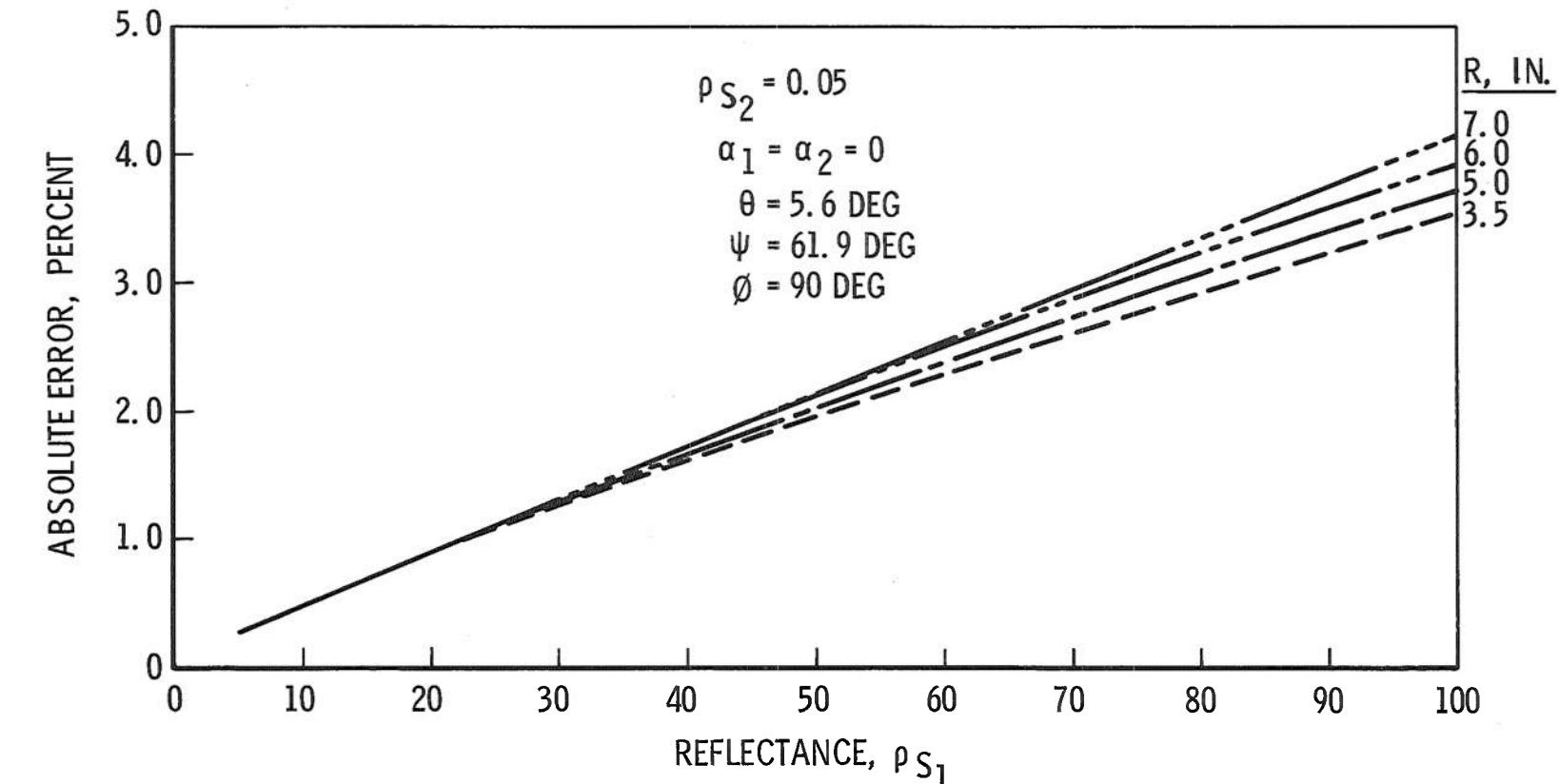


Fig. 10 Absolute Error as a Function of R and  $\rho_{S_1}$

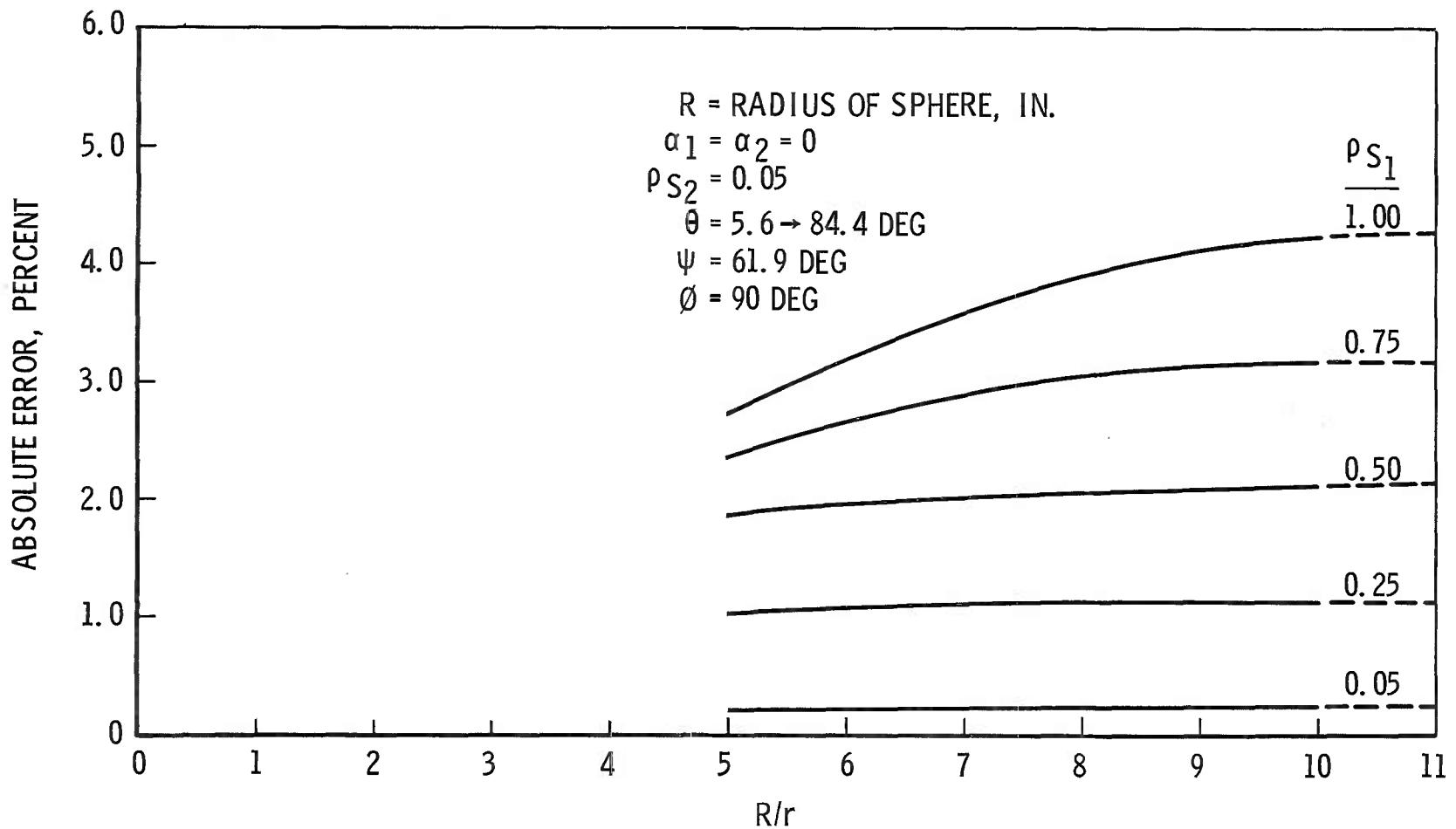


Fig. 11 Absolute Error as a Function of  $R/r$

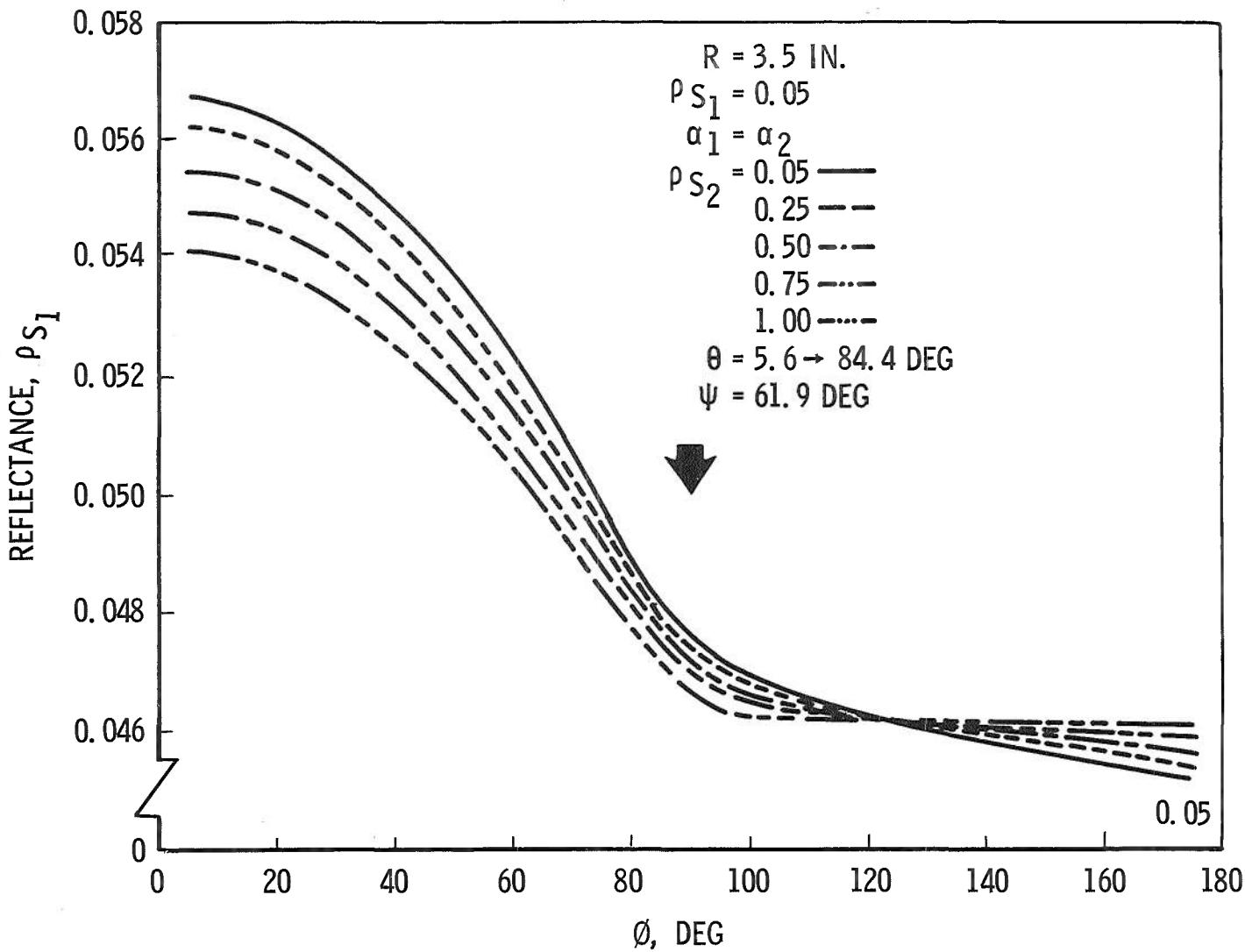


Fig. 12 Effect of  $\rho_{S_2}$  on Calculated  $\rho_{S_1}$

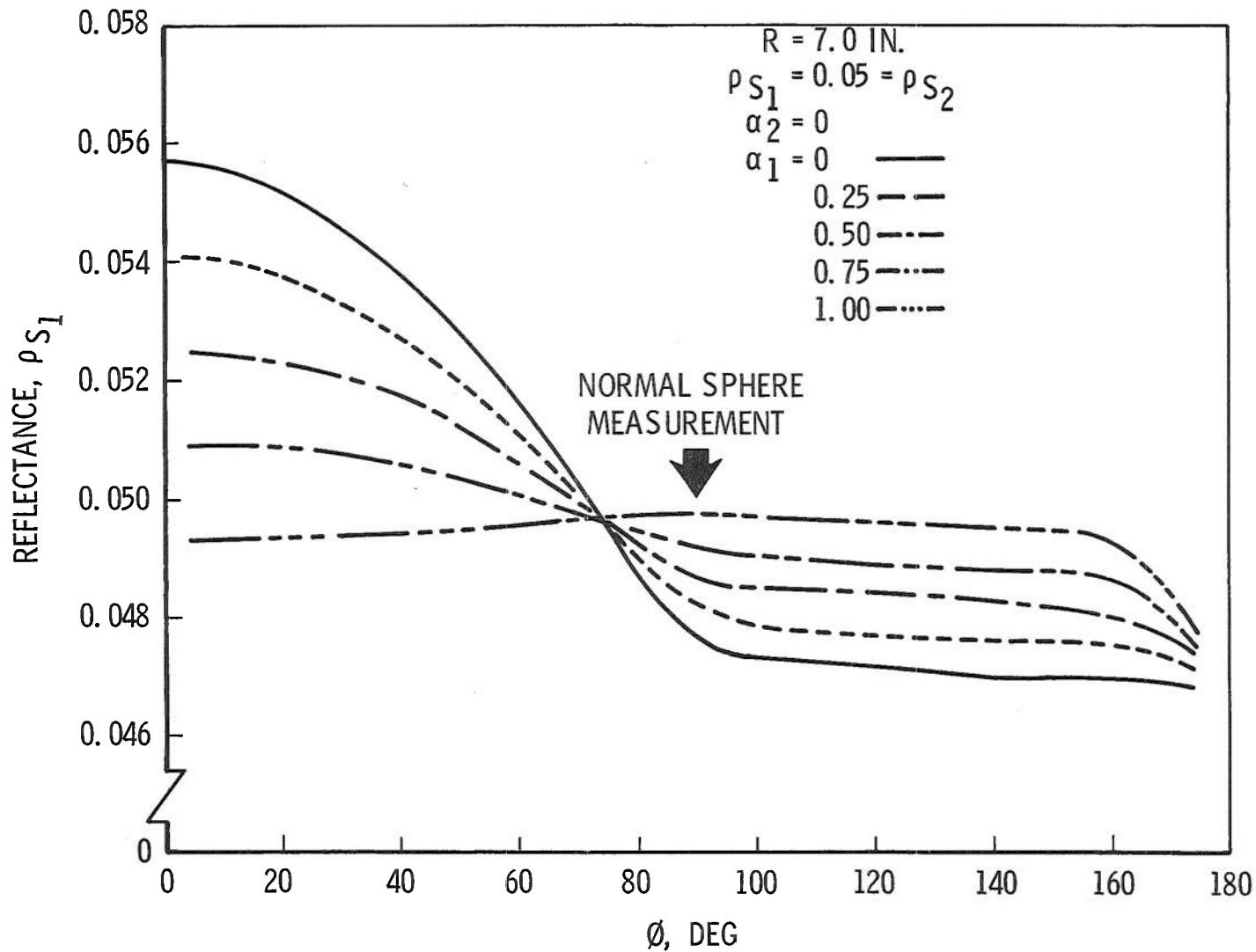


Fig. 13 Reflectance as a Function of  $\phi$  and  $\alpha$ ,

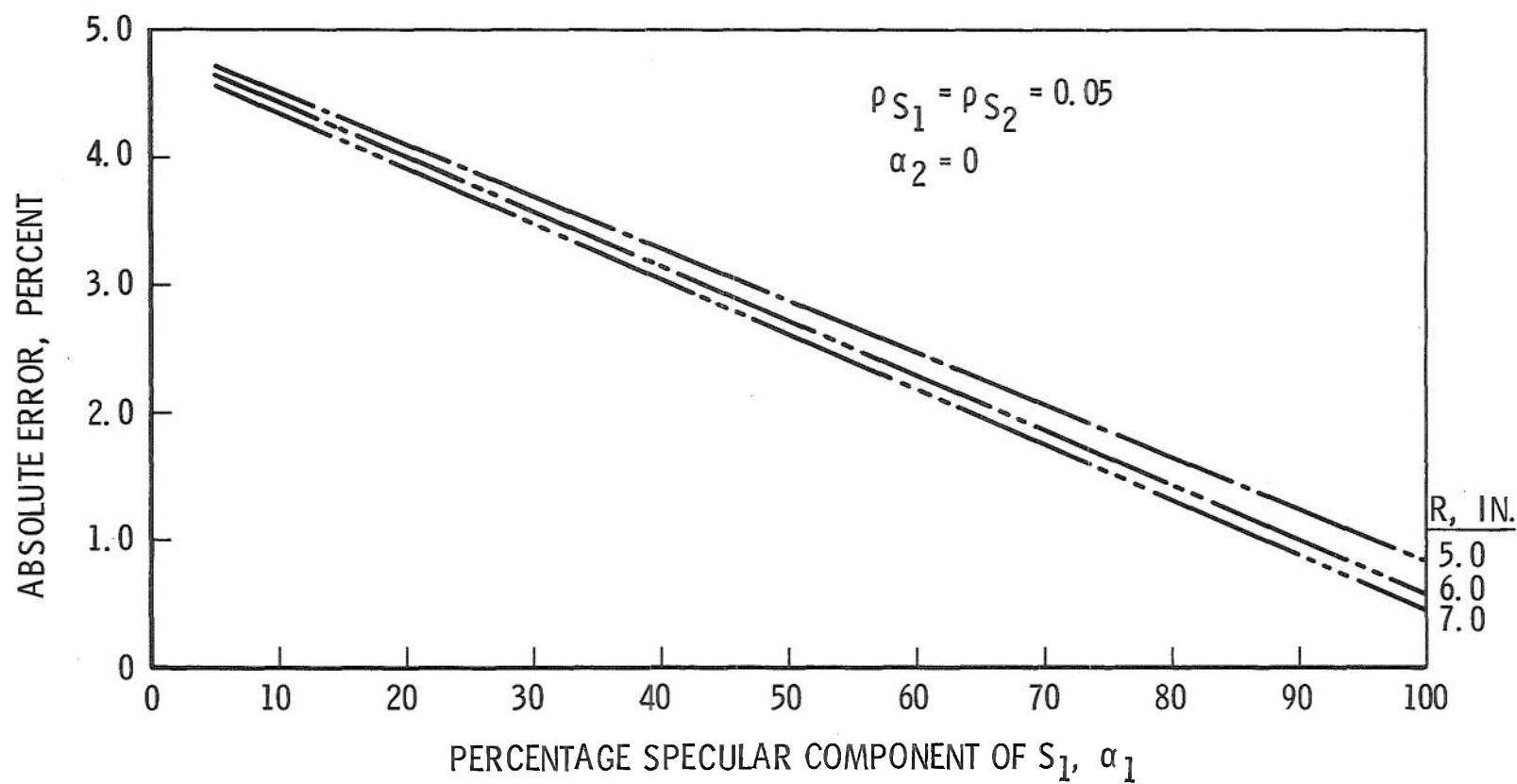


Fig. 14 Error as a Function of  $\alpha_1$  and  $R$

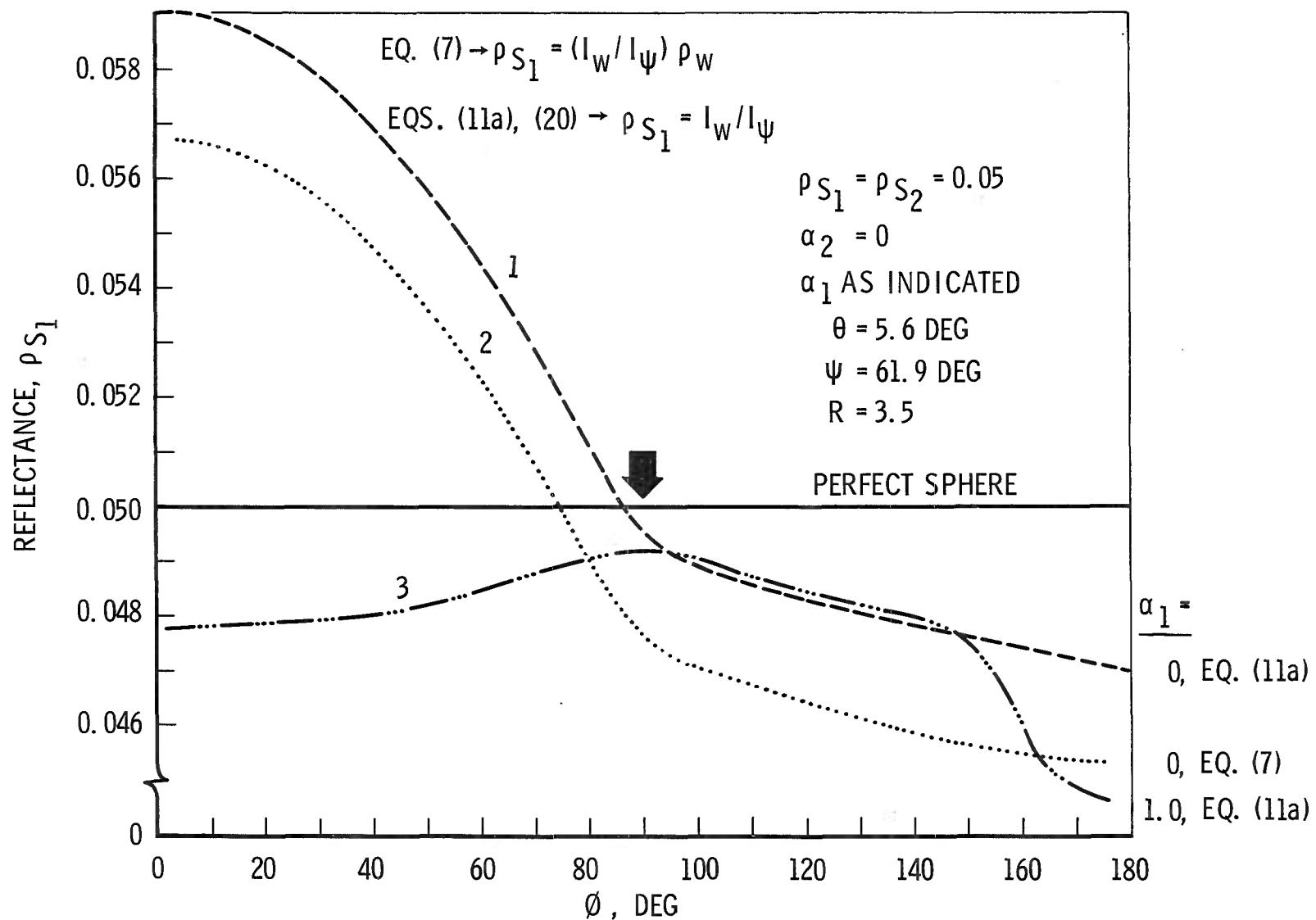


Fig. 15 Comparison of Calculation Methods

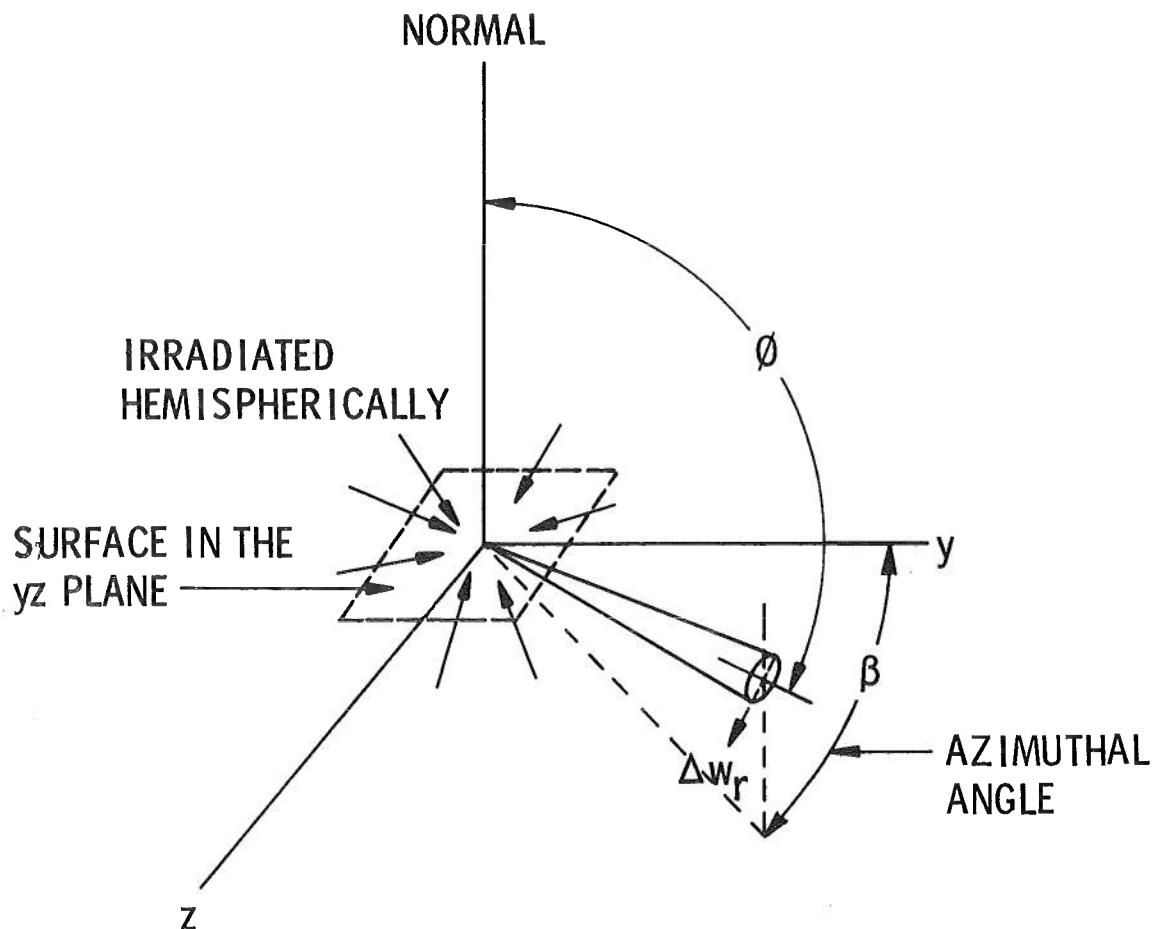


Fig. 16 Hemispherical-Angular Technique

TABLE I  
ABSOLUTE ERROR IN REFLECTANCE MEASUREMENTS USING ANGULAR HEMISPHERICAL TECHNIQUE

I $\rho_{S_1}$	II $\rho_{S_2}$	III Percent Error*	IV Percent Error+	V Percent Error**	VI
0.05	0.50	0.3	0.13	0.2	Calc
0.25	0.50	1.2	0.5	0.8	Calc
0.50	0.50	2.2	0.8	1.4	Calc
0.75	0.50	3.4	0.7	1.7	Calc
1.00	0.50	3.2	0.4	1.6	Calc
0.05	0.05	0.2	0.1	0.2	Calc
0.25	0.05	1.6	0.3	0.9	Calc
1.00	0.05	2.4	0.4	1.8	Calc
0.96	0.05	2.6	0.5	2.0	Expt'l
0.96	0.96	3.1	0.2	1.9	Expt'l

\*  $\phi = 90$  deg,  $\theta = 5.6$  deg from Eq. (7)

+  $\phi = 95$  deg,  $\theta = 5.6$  deg from Eq. (11a)

\*\*  $\phi = 130$  deg,  $\theta = 5.6$  deg from Eq. (11a)



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## 13. ABSTRACT

A review of the assumptions made in the theory of the classical integrating sphere is given. The validity of these assumptions as applied to a modified integrating sphere is discussed in terms of a computer analysis and experimental data. The results of the analysis indicate that a possible error of 15 percent may be introduced into the absolute reflectance determinations. This can occur when the classical theory is applied to a modified integrating sphere using the angular-hemispherical technique. The parameters considered in the analysis are irradiance, sphere radius, sample reflectance, specular component of the sample, angle of incidence, and detector location.

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